

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the present application. The non-final Office Action dated May 8, 2003 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

By this Response, Applicants have amended the specification and claims to correct minor typographical errors. Applicants have also amended FIG. 1B to correct a typographical error, as indicated in red in the annotated sheet showing changes. Claims 1-36 are currently pending. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection in view of the above amendments and the following remarks are requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1, 3, 6-10, 15-18, 22, 26-30 and 35-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,978,016, issued to Miyazaki et al. (hereafter "Miyazaki"). Applicants traverse this rejection because Miyazaki, which merely discloses a conventional method of fabricating LCDs, fails to teach or suggest each of the features recited in combination in the claims of the present application. For example, Miyazaki fails to teach or suggest a method for fabricating a liquid crystal display (LCD) and a liquid crystal display (LCD) that include, among other features: "performing an orientation treatment on the oriented films on the first substrate and on the second substrate such that the oriented films bond the first substrate and the second substrate together", as recited in independent claim 1; "performing an orientation treatment on the first orientation film and on the second oriented film using light radiation and such that the first substrate and the second substrate are bonded together", as recited in independent claim 10; "performing an orientation treatment on the oriented films using light radiation such that the first substrate and the second substrate are bonded together", as recited in independent claim 15; a LCD "wherein the first substrate and the second substrate are configured in a facing relationship such that the first alignment film on the patterned spacers contacts the second alignment film, wherein the contacting alignment films bond the first substrate and the second substrate together", as recited in amended independent claim 22; and a LCD having "a liquid crystal between the first substrate and the second substrate, wherein the first alignment film contacts the second alignment film such that the contacting films bond the first substrate and the second substrate are together", as recited in amended,

independent claim 29.

Since Miyazaki fails to teach or suggest at least these features of independent claims 1, 10, 15, 22 and 29, and their dependent claims 2-9, 11-14, 16-21 and 30-36, respectively, Applicants respectfully submit Miyazaki does not anticipate the present invention. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 3, 6-10, 15-18, 22, 26-30 and 35-36 are requested.

In the Office Action, claims 2, 12, 23 and 32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miyazaki in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,808,716, issued to Gass et al. (hereafter "Gass"). Claims 4, 14, 20, 24 and 33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miyazaki in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,734,218, issued to Takuma et al. (hereafter "Takuma"). Claims 5, 21, 25 and 34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miyazaki in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,724,113, issued to Bryan-Brown et al. (hereafter "Bryan-Brown"). Claims 11, 19 and 31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miyazaki in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,729,312, issued to Yamagishi et al. (hereafter "Yamagishi"). Applicants respectfully traverse each of these rejections. Each of these claims is dependent from one of independent claims 1, 10, 15, 22 and 29, which are discussed above. Applicants respectfully submit that none of the cited references, analyzed alone or in any combination, teach or suggest all the combined features recited in the claims of the present invention.

If the Examiner deems that a telephone conversation would further the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (202) 496-7500.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed

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In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

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Respectfully submitted,

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